

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### 2013 Monsoon Report 1

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

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**Report Highlights:**

The southwest monsoon arrived in Kerala on June 1, the historical average date of the monsoon's onset. According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), conditions favor further advance of monsoon to cover most of southern, southeastern, south central Maharashtra, and central Indian states by June 10. On April 26, 2013, IMD issued a "normal monsoon" forecast.

## General Information:

### Monsoon Progress

The southwest monsoon, critical for India's agricultural production, arrived in Kerala on June 1, 2013, against anticipated onset on June 3<sup>rd</sup> (*Figure 1*). The monsoon has advanced to cover Kerala, Goa, Karnataka, parts of Tamil Nadu, of Andhra Pradesh and the Bay of Bengal. By June 6, IMD predicts that conditions will be favorable for further advance into Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, northern Andhra Pradesh, and eastern Madhya Pradesh. Subsequently, rains are likely to cover the northeastern states, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim and parts of central India while the remainder of the country is expected to remain dry until June 10.

### Performance

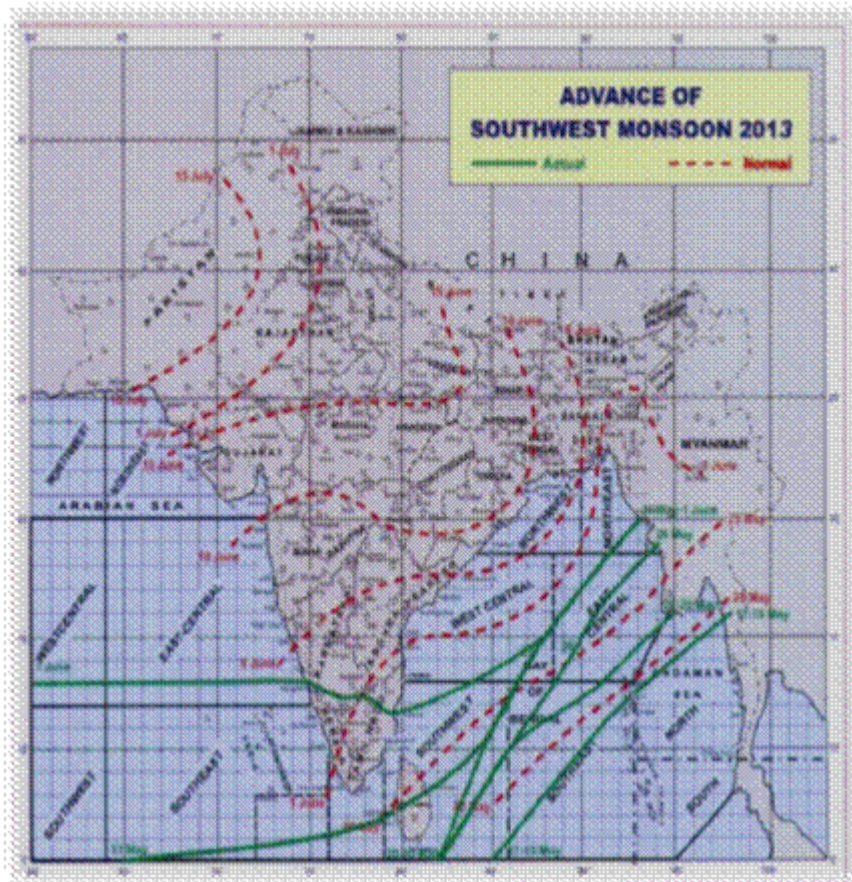
For the week beginning May 23 through May 29, 2013, pre-monsoon rains were 13 percent below normal, with deficient to no rains in 22 out of 36 weather subdivisions (*Figure 2*). Except for Odisha, Jharkhand, Telangana, Bihar, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, remaining states were completely dry.

Planting of most *kharif* (fall and early harvested) crops, such as rice, soybeans, peanuts, cotton, coarse grains, and pulses, will resume after the monsoon reaches the major growing areas. Timely arrival of monsoon rain, coupled with the spatial and temporal distribution, is vital for sustaining agricultural production, especially when it irrigates 55 percent of agricultural land and brings 70 percent of total rainfall. Even in irrigated areas, good monsoon rains boost yields and reduce costs of production.

### Forecast

On April 26, 2013, the IMD released its long-range forecast for the June-September monsoon season, predicting a normal monsoon for the fourth consecutive year (i.e., within the range of 96 to 104 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA) ([IMD Press Release](#)). This year's monsoon rainfall is expected to be 98 percent of the LPA with a model error of +/- 5 percent. IMD will continue to issue forecasts for subsequent months as well as a seasonal update on nationwide rainfall.

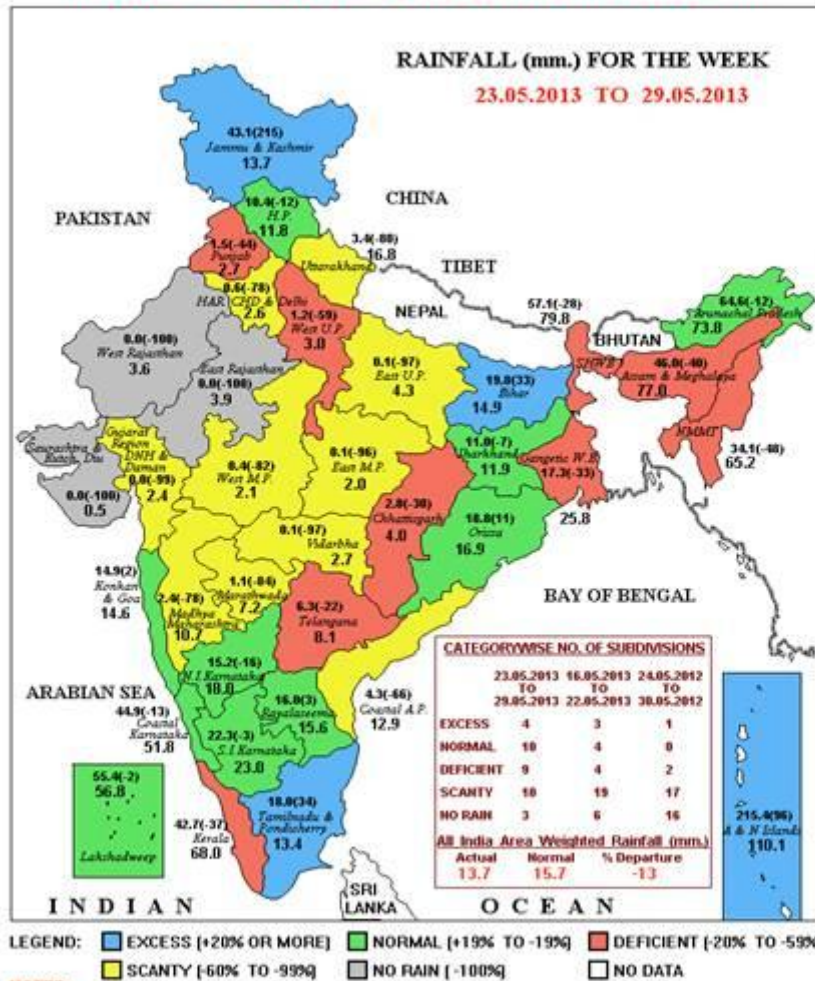
**Figure 1: India: Monsoon progress as of June 3, 2013**



Source: IMD, GOI

**Figure 2: India: Rainfall for the week ending May 29, 2013**

# भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Source: IMD, GOI